

**ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE (APC) ANNUAL REPORT TO THE UNL  
FACULTY SENATE  
William Wagner, Chair  
December 2015 – December 2016  
Presented to the Faculty Senate on January 10, 2016**

**Responsibilities:**

- A. Formulate and recommend to the Faculty Senate, to the Colleges, and to the Chancellor goals for UNL in the areas of education (resident and extension), research, and service.
- B. Recommend action to achieve the goals of UNL.
- C. Review with the Chancellor or appropriate Vice Chancellors the Comprehensive Facilities Plan, the campus master land-use plan, and facilities needs as they relate to academic and support program goals.
- D. Use all relevant information and expertise inside and outside UNL.
- E. Concern itself with goals, needs, and resources for a future period as long as is prudent and reasonable in view of the information and advice available.
- F. Empowered to recommend changes in program, including elimination.
- G. Changes or elimination of existing programs shall include time and opportunity for existing personnel to qualify for a position in another program within the University whenever this requirement will not materially interfere with UNL achieving in full measure the goals of education, research, and service.
- H. Encourage academic planning within the colleges and other units of UNL on continuing basis through joint faculty-administrative-student action.
- I. Assist the Chancellor in seeking remedies for a financial exigency.

**Current Members:**

- William Wagner, Chair, School of Biological Sciences
- Melanie Simpson, Vice Chair and Graduate College Representative, Biochemistry
- Faculty Senate Representative: Leslie Delserone, University Libraries
- Tyler White, Glenn Korff School of Music
- Michael Farrell, Agricultural Leadership, Education, & Communication
- Eva Franke-Schubert, Computing and Electrical Engineering
- Guy Trainin, Teaching, Learning & Teacher Education
- Mark Hinchman, College of Architecture
- Patricia Sollars, Veterinary & Biomedical Sciences
- Ken Bloom, Physics & Astronomy
- Dean Representatives:
  - Nancy Busch
  - Maria Marron
- ASUN Representatives:
  - Spencer Hartman (Undergraduate)
  - Ignacio Correias (Graduate)
- Ex Officio Representatives:
  - William J. Nunez, Secretary of APC
  - Marjorie Kostelnik (interim Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs)

- Steve Goddard, (Interim VC of Research)
- Ron Yoder, (Interim VC of IANR)
- Non-Member Representative:
  - Karen Griffin, Coordinator of Faculty Governance

The Academic Planning Committee met four times during the Spring Semester, and five times during the Fall Semester for a total of 9 meetings. The APC's annual meeting (for the 2015-16 academic year) with the Chancellor was held on April 27, 2016.

**Recommendations for Action by the Senate:**

None

**Summary of Regular, Annual Activities:**

Academic Program Reviews (APRs)

Members have served on the following APRs:

- School of Veterinary & Biomedical Sciences (January 25-29, 2016)
- Agricultural Leadership, Education & Communication (April 17-20, 2016)
- English (October 9-12, 2016)
- Plant Pathology (October 16-19, 2016)
- Entomology (October 30-November 2, 2016)

Six APR reports were submitted, and accepted, to the APC during 2016:

- Agricultural Economics, presented January 13, 2016
- School of Natural Resources, presented April 27, 2016
- School of Veterinary & Biomedical Sciences, presented April 27, 2016
- Special Education and Communication Disorders, presented September 7, 2016
- Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, presented September 7, 2016
- English, presented December 7, 2016

**Summary of Activities:**

- Worked on revising, and approved recommended changes, to the UNL Bylaws.
- Updated and revised the Academic Program Review Guidelines.
- Received reports on the searches for Dean of Architecture, Associate Vice Chancellor of International and Global Engagement, Vice Chancellor of IANR, Executive Vice Chancellor.
- Received a report from then Interim SVCAA Green about the University's appropriation request and capital funding.
- Received a report regarding the diversity mapping efforts.
- Received a report on enrollment figures.
- Heard an update from Interim SVCAA Kostelnik on the Higher Learning Commission reaccreditation site visit.
- Learned that IANR had a new formation in Extension with the creation of the Eastern Nebraska Research & Extension Center. Faculty members for the new center were transferred from the Northeast Research & Extension Center and the Southeast Research

& Extension Center.

- Received a report on research endeavors at UNL which included information on improvements in federal research funding, efforts to have more opportunities for faculty research with STRATCOM, efforts to build collaboration with UNMC and other campuses, received updates on the search for directors of the Virology Center and the Center for Brain, Biology, and Behavior. Announcements were made to the APC regarding recent research awards. The APC received an announcement of a donation to establish the Nebraska Food for Health Center at Innovation Campus.
- Heard a report on the University Undergraduate Curriculum Committee from Professor Delserone.
- Received information that the Graduate Student Association has a travel award program for graduate students. Proposals for funding are peer and faculty reviewed.
- Discussed the goals outlined in the Chancellor's State of the University Address.

#### New Graduate Certificate Programs Recommended for Approval

- Nutrition, Non-coding RNAs and Extracellular Vesicles
- Public Relations and Social Media
- World Language Teaching

#### New Undergraduate Major Recommended for Approval

- Graphics Design
- Sports Media and Communication

#### Change of Department Name Recommended for Approval

- Art and Art History to Art, Art, History, and Design

#### College Change of Name Recommended for Approval

- College of Business Administration to College of Business

#### Facilities Project Initiation Requests (PIRs) Recommended for Approval

None

#### Programs of Excellence (PoE) Recommendations

None

#### **Appointments:**

APC representatives were appointed to two University-wide committees:

- Aesthetic Review Committee - Member Mark Hinchman
- University Curriculum Committee - Member Patty Sollars
- Members were appointed to seven APC subcommittees:
- Project Initiation Request Subcommittee (standing committee): Eva Franke-Schubert, Ignacio Correas, and Bill Nunez
- Long-range Planning Subcommittee (standing committee): Melanie Simpson, Guy Trainin, Ken Bloom, Mike Farrell, Spencer Hartman, Marjorie Kostelnik and Steve

Goddard

- Subcommittees were created to review program proposals (see above under Summary of Activities for list of proposed programs)

APC representatives were appointed for future Academic Program Reviews:

- Classics & Religious Studies - Tyler White
- University Libraries - Guy Trainin
- Biochemistry - Ken Bloom

**Upcoming Issues:**

- Review procedures for upcoming campus budget cuts

**Summary of Additional Activities:**

None

**Recommendations for the Committee for the Next Year:**

None